

Today, I want to mention a true gentleman from Boone County, Indiana who I had the privilege of meeting recently.

Mr. Speaker, it has always been my strong belief that individuals and communities can do a better job of caring for those who need help in our society than the federal government. The wonderfully kind and committed Hoosiers who I have met traveling around Indiana has not changed my view.

Ruthie and I have met hundreds of individuals who are committed to making our communities a better place in which to live and raise our children—we call them "Hoosier Heroes."

I met a genuine Hoosier Hero in Boone County, Indiana recently. He is Gordon Husk who is President of Lebanon's newest Kiwanis Club and he serves on the board of directors of Habitat for Humanity of Boone County.

Gordon epitomizes a "Hoosier Hero", men and women with no desire for recognition, who reenergize their communities. Gordon has been a member of the Mural Temple Shrine Transportation Committee for the past five years. During that time he has driven 261 trips to Chicago, Lexington, or Cincinnati, delivering children to these three Shrine Hospitals where they receive free treatment. That's equal to about one full year devoted to giving these kids the most precious gift possible, hope.

He doesn't do it for the pay, which is zilch; he does it for the smiles and laughter. He is a true hero in my book, doing good works for others with no other motive than Christian charity.

Gordon deserves the gratitude of his county, state, and nation and I thank him here today on the floor of the House of Representatives.

INTERNATIONAL ACCOUNTING STANDARDS COMMITTEE

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 16, 1999

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to welcome the delegates to the International Accounting Standards Committee (IASC) to Washington, DC, where on March 16–19, 1999, the IASC is holding its first Board meeting that is open to public observation.

The International Accounting Standards Committee was formed in 1973 through an agreement made by professional accountancy bodies from nine countries, including the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA). At present, 142 accounting organizations in 103 countries are IASC members. These organizations represent over 2,000,000 accountants worldwide.

The IASC works closely with the national standards-setting bodies, such as the Financial Accounting Standards Board in the United States; intergovernmental organizations such as the European Commission, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, and the United Nations; and development agencies such as the World Bank. The objectives of the IASC are:

(1) To formulate and publish, in the public interest, accounting standards to be observed

in the presentation of financial statements and to promote their worldwide acceptance and observance; and

(2) To work generally for the improvement and harmonization of regulations, accounting standards and procedures relating to the presentation of financial statements.

I would like to acknowledge the hard work and spirit of public interest that characterize the participants in this meeting and to extend my best wishes to the IASC for continued success.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE JUDGE C. CLYDE ATKINS

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 16, 1999

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay honor and tribute to the life and the enormous contributions of Judge C. Clyde Atkins, who passed away on the morning of March 11th. As a United States District Court Judge, Judge Atkins was not only a colleague, a dear friend, but also a mentor. Judge Atkins truly saw the humanity in everyone. He championed the rights of the homeless, Cuban exiles, and Haitian refugees in his landmark decisions, such as the establishment of "safe zones" for the homeless to be free of police harassment in Miami. His rulings to prevent the repatriation of Haitian and Cuban refugees from the U.S. Naval Base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba are legendary precedents. His efforts to improve our humanity gave encouragement and inspiration to an entire community. It is not enough to say that he will be missed. It is not even enough to say that his efforts will never be forgotten. I believe that the legacy of the Honorable Judge C. Clyde Atkins will forever live in the lives of all those whom he has inspired. I, for one, am a better American for knowing him.

HONORING JEFFERY J. ANGER II

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 16, 1999

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a local hero from western Wisconsin. I want to honor Jefferey J. Anger who took courageous action to aid another citizen.

For the past 3 years the Eau Claire Fire Fighters Local Union 487, in conjunction with the Eau Claire Fire Department, have recognized area residents who acted bravely in emergency situations. The recipients of the Citizen Community Involvement Awards are citizens who put the safety and well being of their neighbors ahead of other concerns in a time of need.

Jeffery J. Anger is one of those extraordinary citizens. On June 12, 1998, Jeff was working as an assistant manager at the Perkins Family Restaurant in Eau Claire, WI. At approximately 9:20 p.m., there was a car accident in front of the restaurant. One car was

struck from the rear and pushed 200 yards through an intersection. A woman involved in the accident ran into the restaurant seeking help for the woman in the other car. Jeffery called 911 and grabbed several towels and rushed outside to the scene. He found the woman in the front of the car with a severe head wound. He wrapped the towels around her head to control the bleeding until the Eau Claire fire/rescue team arrived. He was able to provide her with comfort and reassurance while they waited for an ambulance.

On behalf of all the citizens of western Wisconsin, I ask that the U.S. House of Representatives recognize Jeffery J. Anger for his courage and thank him for being a concerned and giving community citizen.

FOR THE CHILDREN

HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 16, 1999

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, it is our responsibility as leaders and parents to act in the best interests of our children. It is our responsibility to provide our children with opportunities so that they can maximize their potential and make positive contributions to society. All children should have this opportunity. When individuals are not afforded a chance, this can limit their future. Consequently, due to this shared responsibility, I felt that it was necessary to introduce the American Asian Justice Act of 1999.

This bill will amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to facilitate the immigration to the United States of children born in the Philippines and Japan who were fathered by United States servicemen. While the children fathered by American citizens in Vietnam, Laos, Thailand, Kampuchea and Korea are allowed to immigrate to the United States, Philippine Amerasian children are denied this right because they were excluded from the 1982 U.S. Amerasian Law.

For several years, the Philippines and Japan served as a central location for military operations in the Far East. As a result, interracial relationships and marriages produced approximately 50,000 children of mixed ancestry. The majority of these children are now suffering and estranged in the Philippines today. Many children are stigmatized because they are considered illegitimate or have mixed ethnic ancestry and have been denied access to viable employment and education opportunities, causing these children to live in conditions of severe poverty. In addition, in June 1991, Mt. Pinatubo, which is located within miles of these U.S. bases, erupted and caused severe damage, leaving thousands of children of mixed ancestry abandoned, helpless, and without means of support.

Therefore, the time has come to expand the U.S. Amerasian Law to include the children of the Philippines and Japan, and facilitate their passage to the United States under the sponsorship of their U.S. relatives. It is time to help these children immigrate to the United States so they can grow up with the love and support of their own families. It is our responsibility to help these children. In helping these children we are helping ourselves.